

MUELLER SHOT HIS SWEETHEART

Confesses That His Story That She Was Murdered by Highwayman Is False.

SHOOTING WAS ACCIDENTAL

Claims He Fired at a Supposed Man in the Dark—Police Think He Was Trying to Get Rid of the Girl—The Woman Was Shot Twice.

Baltimore, Md., March 8.—Under searching questioning by the police today John J. Mueller confessed that it was he who last night shot and killed his sweetheart, Miss Regina Reed, and that there was truth in the story he told immediately after the shooting, to the effect that he and Miss Reed were held up at a lonely spot near Mount Washington, a suburb, by a highwayman who, after securing Mueller's money, demanded a necklace worn by Miss Reed. Mueller stated last night that in response to this demand Miss Reed slipped the highwayman's face and thereupon the fatal shot was fired. Following the investigation of the corner last night Mueller was held. To-day he made and signed a statement in which he said that when the electric car upon which he and Miss Reed were riding, reached South and Millip avenues, near Mount Washington, Mueller saw a man standing near the car. Mueller was set for April 14, said she must leave the car. They did so and according to Mueller's statement, after they had walked a short distance, the girl preceding him, he thought he saw a man emerging from behind a tree and believing himself to be in danger, fired, but owing to the unsteadiness of his aim on account of fright, the bullet struck and killed Miss Reed. Mueller declares that shooting to have been entirely accidental.

His story, however, is not accepted by the police, whose theory is that the killing was premeditated. They believe that Mueller wished to break off his engagement to Miss Reed, but had not the courage to tell her so. At the corner's lowest, a number of points were brought out that contradicted Mueller's original statement as well as a part of his confession. It developed that Miss Reed was shot twice and three witnesses have testified that there was an interval of at least two minutes between the shots. Mueller and Miss Reed figured, last December, in an episode in which an anonymous threatening letter and a box of poisoned candy were incidents. The police believe that Mueller sent both the letter and the candy to himself and that even at that time he was planning to get rid of Miss Reed.

64TH ANNIVERSARY.

Odd Fellows Celebrate Event with Speaking, Music and Banquet.

The exercises Tuesday evening by Green Mountain Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., in observance of the 64th anniversary of the founding of the order in Vermont and in Burlington, were attended by a company which completely filled the lodge rooms. The following program was carried out: Overture, "Rock of Ages," by the Lodge Orchestra. Opening Ode, "By the Lodge Introduction, Lodge History. O. E. Chilson, P. G. M. P. G. R. Odd Fellowship, Bro. S. A. Reed, P. G. G. M., Windsor.

Green Mountain Lodge Quartet Accompanied, Floyd S. Thomas.

Soprano solo, "A May Morning."

Miss Ada Tuttle, Accompanist, Mrs. Hodges.

Violin solo, "Hungarian," by Kater Bela.

Master Lee Lord, (pupil of Mr. Larson).

Accompanist, Mrs. Lord.

Duet, "Rock of Ages," by Edwin Solty.

Misses Mongeon and Holmes, (Pupils of G. H. Wilder). Accompanist, G. H. Wilder.

Contralto solo, "Mizpah."

Howard Bennett, Accompanist, G. H. Wilder.

Flute solo, "Concert Caprice op. 25."

Terscheck.

G. H. Wilder.

Soldiers' Chorus.

Green Mountain Lodge Quartet Accompanied, Floyd S. Thomas.

March, To Banquet Hall.

Thomas' Orchestra.

Mr. Chilson reviewed in an interesting manner the four years of Green Mountain Lodge by seven men who came to Burlington from Whitehall, N. Y., and formed the lodge under the jurisdiction of New York. The members of the lodge have always been prominent in grand lodge councils. The lodge today is better off financially and numerically than ever before in its history. During an existence of 64 years there have been over 300 members.

Past Grand Master Reed, in speaking upon Odd Fellowship, emphasized the fact that the body is a moral and not a religious organization. Benevolence and charity are its aims. The order proclaims first the law of divine love. The total membership of the order at the close of the year 1907 was 1,314,446 and during that year over \$5,000,000 was expended for charity.

Following the program an elaborate

banquet was served. The anniversary entertainment committee was composed of R. C. Smith, A. E. King, E. J. Thomas, G. P. Cole and B. Benton Barker.

A REAL MINERAL SURFACED ROOFING.

The new mineral surfaced type of roofing is one of the latest and best of labor saving devices for the farmer. The old type of so-called "rubber roofing" were expensive and easy to lay, and became very popular on that account. But they required painting every two years or so to keep them from leaking.

Amattite Ready Roofing, which is the most popular of the mineral surfaced roofings, needs no painting or coating of any kind. After it is laid the farmer can leave it strictly alone, and it will continue to give him uninterrupted satisfactory service year after year.

A sample of Amattite showing the real mineral surface can be secured without cost by addressing a post card to the nearest office of the Barrett Manufacturing Company, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Cleveland, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, New Orleans and Minneapolis.

CHANGING VIEWS.

(From the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin.)

Opinion in Wisconsin on the subject of the primary election law has undergone remarkable fluctuations. Among its root and branch opponents now are some who were its earliest friends.

Perhaps the reason why many were at first inclined to sing its praises was that they let their imaginations work too unrestrainedly on its possibilities of good, without troubling themselves as to its possibilities of evil. That it contained possibilities of evil was vociferously denied by those who framed it and refused to have the original bill amended even to the extent of deleting an or cross-line a t. There is on operation of the mind in which men reach queer conclusions. Macaulay describes it in accounting for the universal popular delusion that makes people speak of the "good old times," as if the old times were better than the present. Existing discomforts usually seem much greater than they really are. Past discomforts generally are a forgotten memory. The subject is subjected to the disadvantage of undergoing comparison with an ideal past that never existed.

When the primary election law had become a reality it did not take long for consideration of its working to take a practical form. Those most conspicuous in forcing its enactment were engaged in amending it before it had gone into actual operation, and some of them were for a radical change—"Mary Ann" amendment—which was defeated. A curious thing it would have been if that leap-in-the-dark proposition had been adopted before a chance had been afforded to witness the operation of the original law—hardly mere curiosity, however, than the sudden acceptance of the elaborate and revolutionary measure itself, instead of following the evolutionary process out of which have grown most of the best of Anglo-Saxon political institutions.

The generality of the people accepted the primary election law because in good faith they believed it to be the political panacea it was represented to be. When the very physicians who had recommended it as a sovereign remedy wanted to alter the prescription after it had been compounded but before it had been administered, there was reason why the patient should begin to feel some slight beginnings of distrust. But the general desire was to try the law and "give it a chance." The mass of the people of Wisconsin are reasonable and fair.

It is not improbable that after the better over the senatorial election has subsided there will be a strong inclination to reform the law. The Madison Democrat, which "was not always thus," is now for its repeal. The Democratic party declared itself for a primary election law in its platform of 1906, whereas it was not till 1907 that the republican platform contained a plank in favor of such a law. The Madison Democrat has revised itself on this issue no more completely than has its party. It has a new panacea to propose in place of the one that has not worked according to expectations. The Democrat says:

"Cut out clean and effectually the unauthorized use of money in the nomination of candidates and the election of officers and then no primary election law is needed, then the towns will have representation in selecting public officers; then the taxpayers of the State, of counties, towns, cities and villages, will be saved at least \$10,000 for holding a useless primary election; then it will be safe, cheap and honest to return to the old convention system."

There is a certain practical act under which any one found guilty of using money for improper purposes in elections may be punished as he ought to be. When talk of corruption is so rampant as it has been at times, and no proceedings are had under this law, one of two things must be true—either the charges are false or that too much dependence may be placed upon the efficacy of statutes. There are also situations of affairs and of human nature which affirm that vigilant enforcement of existing statutes is often a better thing than the hasty enactment of new ones.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

(By Louisa Rawson of Newcomb.)

Come, stand with me a little space, And hear the waves complain; And see your own sweet mirrored face Within our fair Champlain.

Think of the ones who here have stood Upon the silent shore, And viewed the beauties of the wood, And hear the billows roar.

Across my mind bright visions glow, And dusky tribes go past; They heard the oar, and from the bow The arrow hurries fast.

Then one, a brave explorer, he Who gave our lake his name, Comes far across the stormy sea, And finds our calm Champlain.

I hear the distant battle-cries That make the whole earth quake; And see the warlike fleets pass by Upon our lovely lake.

The vision changes, and I see A peaceful land again; Our shores bear fruits of industry, And we are now free men.

Brave traffic claims our lake to-day, And pleasure rides beside; But look ye to the ruins gray, And think of those who died.

LOVE'S LABOR LOST.

First Mother. I don't know whether to enter my baby in the beauty contest or not.

Second Mother. It seems rather too bad to take all that trouble for nothing.

—New York Herald.

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COUNTY COURT IN SESSION

March Term Began Tuesday, with Calling of the Docket.

A Few Interesting Cases Set for Trial, while Others Were Marked Settled or Continued—Several New Cases Entered.

The March term of Chittenden county court convened Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, Judge William H. Taylor of Hartford presiding, with W. M. Barker of Williston first assistant and E. W. Quinn of Underhill second assistant. Prayer was offered by Rev. F. D. Penney and the opening proclamation was made by Sheriff Allen.

Judge Taylor read the amended court rules, after which the dockets were called. The following entries were made in jury cases:

In re estate Harriet C. Peck, appeal from probate, trial.

Russell W. Taff vs. Charles E. Walker, appeal, trial.

M. F. Kelley vs. I. N. Chase and J. H. Allen, assumpsit, settled and discontinued.

M. F. Kelley vs. I. N. Chase and James H. Allen, assumpsit, settled and discontinued.

R. W. Taff vs. Frank Gillett, slander and libel, continued.

Sylvester A. Ploof vs. Henry W. Putnam, case, trial.

Russell W. Taff vs. C. C. Gillett, slander, continued.

Arbuckle Company, apt. vs. T. D. Scutables, general assumpsit, settled and discontinued.

News Publishing Co. vs. U. S. Ashton Co., assumpsit, trial.

George W. Palmer vs. W. J. Deshaw, apt. assumpsit, no trial.

W. H. Buckley & Co. vs. Wilbur Field, apt. assumpsit, trial.

Charles A. Bushey vs. The Burlington Traction Co., case, trial.

Merrill McGargan, Jr. vs. Peter Lynch and William McGargan, Jr., trustees, special assumpsit, trial.

Martin Pierce & Co. vs. M. D. Tilley and Reed & Patrick, trustees, assumpsit, to the court.

Peter Bordo vs. Robert Berry, apt. case, trial.

F. H. McGinnis vs. Frank Forbes, assumpsit, trial.

Alfred A. Bushey vs. George Blason, note, trespass, trial.

Isaac P. Sharon, admr. vs. Champlain Transportation Co., case, trial.

Sylvanus Maskell vs. C. V. R. R. Co., case, trial.

Peter M. Campbell vs. Adolphus King, apt. assumpsit, trial.

Louise M. Ploof vs. S. G. Thompson and Vermont Condensed Milk Co., assumpsit, trial.

Kate M. Vaughan, guardian, vs. Joseph Agel, apt. election, trial.

John S. Wilkins, admr. vs. W. W. Brock and L. K. Roselle, case, trial, application for stock jury.

E. Henry Ploof vs. Badley Granite Co., assumpsit, trial.

Edward Lynch, n. f. vs. Peter Lynch vs. Morgan Brothers, case, trial.

Leonard A. Johnson vs. J. P. Madigan, apt. case, trial.

Peter Bordo vs. Charles Nichols, apt. trespass, trial.

William Cull vs. Michael Murphy, Stephen A. Thompson and Martin S. Vilas, trespass, passed.

Mark A. Andrews vs. Cruise Rempter Co., negligence, trial.

Delbert Miller vs. D. D. McGillicuddy et al., trespass, trial.

William B. Lund, ext. and Edward A. Mead vs. Central Vermont Railway Co., case, trial.

Louis Greenough vs. Thomas Parize, apt. assumpsit, to the court.

Louis Wood vs. Josephine Edwards, negligence, trial.

Rogena Reed vs. Jason E. Hunt, case, no trial.

Patrick Gleason vs. G. M. Ainsworth & James Gallagher, trespass, settled and discontinued.

Crystal Confectionery Co. vs. Pearl Street Drug Co., apt. assumpsit, trial.

Moses Miel vs. Edward F. Parent, assumpsit, trial.

William M. Wilcox vs. Parize Brothers, apt. assumpsit, to the court.

Howard A. Lewis vs. Paul Robinson, apt. trespass, motion for continuance.

Thomas O'Neill vs. Joseph Rosenberg, apt. continued.

Clara King vs. Joseph Leonard, apt. assumpsit, trial.

Hosea S. Wright vs. J. S. Nay, book account, to the court.

Arthur Lavoie vs. Fay B. Calkins, assumpsit, continued.

United States of America for use and benefit of Elias Lyman Coal Co. vs. United States Fidelity and Guaranty Co., assumpsit, trial.

E. F. Parent vs. Peter Bordo, assumpsit, no trial.

W. B. Johnson & Co. vs. Central Vermont Railway Co., case, continued.

The following cases were entered Tuesday:

Alma A. Parize vs. Dolph Parize, petition for divorce, grounds alleged, intolerable severity and refusal to support.

Guy H. Eddy vs. Albert and Lucina E. Williams, in chancery, petition for foreclosure.

W. H. Denn, executor, vs. Martha and Orville Place, in chancery, petition for foreclosure.

W. L. White vs. Peter Gallus, assumpsit.

Linnie B. Tracy vs. Henry P. Tracy, petition for divorce, grounds alleged, intolerable severity.

Addie McGookin vs. Richard McGookin, petition for divorce.

Sam Ward vs. Frank Michels, allegation of wife's affections, ad damnum \$500.

C. A. Sanders of Morrisville writes the Free Press that the snow fall there this winter has been something over 15 inches as follows: November, 21 1/2 inches; December, 6 inches; January, 52 inches; February, 28 inches; March, 14 inches. This is the greatest snow fall since 1875 according to Mr. Sanders, who has kept a record ever since the Civil War. The nearest to the record of this season was in January, 1898, when 12 inches of snow fell.

VERMONT NOTES.

W. P. Bartlett of Morgan has entered upon his 42nd year as town treasurer.

Twenty Rutland musicians have formed a festival orchestra with C. A. Estabrook as director.

Repairs contemplated on the Soldiers' Home at Bennington will include painting the main building and shingling the hospital.

Ralph A. Booth, an assistant teacher at People's Academy, Morrisville, has resigned to take up farming in Connecticut.

The old man of Norwich is dead, Samuel A. Armstrong, aged 91 years. Up to a short time ago he was able to walk to the postoffice daily for his mail.

Of 18 deaths in Chelsea the past year, two were infants still born, two were men killed by accident and the 15 remaining were people whose ages ranged from 63 to 92.

Joe Kocenas, a Hungarian employed by the Vermont Marble company at Proctor, was instantly killed Thursday morning by the falling in of a sand pit. He was dismembered.

A civil service examination will be held at St. Albans Saturday, March 27, for the position of fourth class postmaster at Sheldon Junction. The salary of this office for the past fiscal year was \$475.

The funeral of Benson Sanborn, a prominent citizen of Chelsea, was held yesterday. Mr. Sanborn died Monday morning of a shock while going from his house to the barn.

The high wind of Thursday night badly blocked the country roads in Washington county, and the milkmen and rural mail carriers had a hard time Friday morning. They reported the worst blockades of the winter.

The Chelsea Old Home Week association has reorganized with H. O. Hixby as president and has voted to have a celebration this year, the week of August 16, which will be the fifth time that Chelsea has observed old home week.

William J. Dorien is dead at his home in Proctor, aged 38 years. He was a charter member of the Proctor band and one of the best known town players.

William Thorne, et al., trustees, special assumpsit, trial.

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TORNADO KILLED THIRTY PEOPLE

Property Loss of \$1,000,000 in the Little City of Brinkley, Arkansas.

Hardly a Home Escaped Damage—Hundreds Wandering in the Streets Seeking Temporary Shelter—The Catholic Church Alone Stands Unscathed.

BUSINESS HOUSES RUINED

Brinkley, Arkansas, March 8.—Thirty or more lives were snuffed out, 60 people were injured, 14 seriously, and property estimated to be worth \$1,000,000, was destroyed as a result of the tornado which wrecked this little city last night. Of the known dead, 14 are white people as follows:

Isaac Reed, Mrs. Isaac Reed, Russell Reed, Raymond Reed, Porter Potts, J. L. Starrett, Harry Sovell, J. Mrs. Ethel Phillips, Mrs. Belle Darden and two of her children, Charles Fresno, A. M. Hood and an unidentified man.

The tornado hovered about the city only a few minutes but its work of destruction was complete. The Roman Catholic Church, standing directly in the path of the storm, alone escaped damage or destruction and stands to-night a grim sentinel on a scene of desolation. Main street and Cypress avenue, the two principal thoroughfares, are impassable and piled high with wreckage from end to end.

Every business house is in ruins and there is hardly a home that has not at least suffered the loss of a roof or a wing. The Arlington Hotel was totally destroyed. Eighty guests were registered there but all escaped uninjured. The Brinkley Hotel, Southern Hotel and Kelley Hotel were all destroyed without loss of life.

Better sounds have been at work all day caring for the dead and injured. The Rock Island and Cotton Belt railroads have placed cars at the disposal of the relief committee and many people are leaving Brinkley seeking a temporary refuge at nearby points. The dead were sent to Helena from which point internment will take place.

Governor Donaghey arrived from Little Rock this afternoon in response to a call from the citizens' committee. He has the situation well in hand and says food, clothing and shelter are the things most needed. Hundreds of people are homeless and are wandering about seeking a temporary abode. Three special trains arrived from neighboring towns today bringing relief workers, physicians and nurses. The Catholic Church has been converted into a hospital and here the doctors and nurses are caring for the injured. The citizens of Helena have generously offered the use of their homes for the destitute.

Mass meetings will be held to-morrow in Memphis, Little Rock and other cities to raise funds and supplies for the sufferers.

FIRST TO SUMMON AID.

L. M. Kimmell, a railroad operator at Brinkley, one of the first to reach a point of communication to summon aid for the devastated town, graphically describes the scene immediately after the passing of the storm. Together with several companions Kimmell was in the Rock Island depot when the storm struck. As if it were a toy the substantial structure was twisted and broken the occupants being caught among the fallen timbers, bruised but after half an hour's effort they found the town in a darkened and desolate state. A terror stricken throng, their shrieks mingling with the means of the injured, intermittent flashes of lightning revealed wreckage everywhere and again only a tangled mass of debris. As Kimmell and his companions were about to leave the town they identified two of the dead and stumbled over others who were wounded.

Huddled about the ruins of their homes families were standing in groups clinging together in terror while here and there was one groping about in quest of a missing member of the household.

As the town started to leave Brinkley intending to walk to Weavely, the nearest town, the added horror of fire appeared. When two miles from Brinkley Kimmell and party were forced to retrace their steps because of the gale. The fire had gained headway and, fanned by the stiff wind, was spreading but the prompt work of citizens suppressed the conflagration.

Accompanying the gift of a diamond necklace from Mrs. Roosevelt's personal book, friends last week was a friendship book designed by Miss Florence Pike, a teacher in the School of Arts and Crafts in Washington, D. C., in which the names of the donors of the necklace were inscribed. Miss Pike is a native of Derby and a graduate of Derby Academy. Following graduation from the Vermont institution, Miss Pike studied art in Boston and gave her course there last summer.

Ex-Gov. Samuel E. Pingree of Hartford, who was re-elected town clerk last week, has filed that office since 1893 and in point of service is probably the oldest town clerk in Vermont. Mr. Pingree is 77 years of age and has served in the office since 1893.

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